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Educators Hear NY Publisher

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—Roy E. Larsen, New York City publisher, said today the primary American education problem is getting "a continuing public interest in education."

Larsen, chairman of the National Citizens' Commission for the Public Schools, addressed the opening meeting of the two-day Ohio White House Conference on

Education. He is publisher of Time, Inc.

"I am sure you all want to see 23 of Ohio's finest citizens' elected to your new State Board of Education," Larsen said, as an example. "This will not be the case, however, unless public interest in each congressional district is strong enough, first to encourage good candidates to file and second to elect the best of them."

The publisher said a recent report by Allen Dulles, chief of the Central Intelligence Agency, indicates Russia is "catching up to, if not outstripping, our schools."

"The high school graduate there has covered ten years of mathematics, even of languages, and nine in a combination of physics, biology, chemistry and astronomy," Larsen said.

"Obviously, the Russians know what they want their schools to accomplish."

About 300 Ohioans from all counties have gathered here for the conference, a forerunner of regional and city meetings later this year. A national conference in Washington is scheduled for November.